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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/057,564

01/25/2002

David B. Larsen

XP-1031

2015

21013

7590

10/01/2004

AGFA CORPORATION
LAW & PATENT DEPARTMENT
200 BALLARDVALE STREET
WILMINGTON, MA 01887

EXAMINER

LAMB, TWYLER MARIE

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2622

DATE MAILED: 10/01/2004

3

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/057,564

Applicant(s)

LARSEN, DAVID B.

Examiner

Twyler M. Lamb

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 January 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-44 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Kline et al. (Kline) (US 5,182,990).

With regard to claim 1, Kline discloses a method of preventing perceivable artifacts from being formed in a composite image comprising the steps of: imaging a plurality of printing plates using an imaging apparatus having a plurality of imaging beams, said plurality of printing plates used for a same print job; and using a different imaging beam of said imaging apparatus as a starting beam to image each of said plurality of printing plates (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 39).

With regard to claim 2, Kline also discloses wherein said artifacts are periodic (col 14, lines 29-31).

With regard to claim 3, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a random process (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 39).

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With regard to claim 4, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a pseudo-random process (col 15, lines 40-58).

With regard to claim 5, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a sequential process (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 39).

With regard to claim 6, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a fixed or variable offset (col 15, lines 40-58).

With regard to claim 7, Kline discloses a method of reducing perceivable artifacts from being formed in a composite image comprising the steps of: imaging a plurality of printing plates using an imaging apparatus having a plurality of imaging beams, said plurality of printing plates used for a same print job; and using a different imaging beam of said imaging apparatus as a starting beam to image each of said plurality of printing plates (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 39).

With regard to claim 8, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a random process (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 39).

With regard to claim 9, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a pseudo-random process (col 15, lines 40-58).

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With regard to claim 10, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a sequential process (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 39).

With regard to claim 11, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a fixed or variable offset (col 15, lines 40-58).

With regard to claim 12, Kline discloses a method of preventing perceivable artifacts from being formed in a composite image comprising the steps of: imaging a plurality of printing plates using an imaging apparatus having a plurality of imaging beams, said plurality of printing plates used for a same print job; and using a different imaging beam of said imaging apparatus as a starting beam to image each of said plurality of printing plates and wherein each of said printing plates is operative to transfer a unique color ink from an ink supply to a same substrate, when said plurality of printing plates are used on a multi-color printing press (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 39).

With regard to claim 13, Kline also discloses wherein said artifacts are periodic (col 14, lines 29-31).

With regard to claim 14, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a random process (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 39).

With regard to claim 15, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a pseudo-random process (col 15, lines 40-58).

With regard to claim 16, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a sequential process (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 39).

With regard to claim 17, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a fixed or variable offset (col 15, lines 40-58).

With regard to claim 18, Kline discloses a method of preventing perceivable artifacts from being formed in a composite image comprising the steps of: imaging a plurality of printing plates using an imaging apparatus having a plurality of imaging beams, said plurality of printing plates used for a same print job; and using a different imaging beam of said imaging apparatus as a starting beam to image each of said plurality of printing plates and wherein each of said printing plates is operative to transfer a unique color ink from an ink supply to a same substrate, when each of said printing plates are used on a multi-color printing press (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 58).

With regard to claim 19, Kline also discloses wherein said artifacts are periodic (col 14, lines 29-31).

With regard to claim 20, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a random process (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 39).

With regard to claim 21, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a pseudo-random process (col 15, lines 40-58).

With regard to claim 22, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a sequential process (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 39).

With regard to claim 23, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a fixed or variable offset (col 15, lines 40-58).

With regard to claim 24, Kline discloses a method of preventing perceivable artifacts from being formed in a composite image comprising the steps of: imaging a plurality of printing plates using an imaging apparatus having a plurality of imaging beams, said plurality of printing plates used for a same print job; and using a different imaging beam of said imaging apparatus as a starting beam to image each of said plurality of printing plates and wherein each of said printing plates is operative to transfer a unique color ink from an ink supply to a same substrate, when said printing plates is used on said multi-color printing press (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 58).

With regard to claim 25, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a random process (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 39).

With regard to claim 26, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a pseudo-random process (col 15, lines 40-58).

With regard to claim 27, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a sequential process (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 39).

With regard to claim 28, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a fixed or variable offset (col 15, lines 40-58).

With regard to claim 29, Kline discloses a method of preventing perceivable artifacts from being formed in a composite image comprising the steps of: imaging a plurality of printing plates using an imaging apparatus having a plurality of imaging beams, said plurality of printing plates used for a same print job; and using a different imaging beam of said imaging apparatus as a starting beam to image each of said plurality of printing plates and wherein a unique set of said plurality of image beams is used to image each of said plurality of printing plates (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 58).

With regard to claim 30, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said unique set of said plurality of imaging beam using a random process (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 39).

With regard to claim 31, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said unique set of said plurality of imaging beam using a pseudo-random process (col 15, lines 40-58).

With regard to claim 32, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said unique set of said plurality of imaging beam using a sequential process (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 39).

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With regard to claim 33, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said unique set of said plurality of imaging beam using a fixed or variable offset (col 15, lines 40-58).

With regard to claim 34, Kline discloses a method of printing images on a substrate comprising the steps of: providing a plurality of imaged printing plates for use on a printing press for a same print job; transferring an image from each of said plurality of printing plates to a same printable substrate; wherein each of said plurality of printing plates is used with a different color plane on said printing press; and wherein each of said plurality of printing plates is previously imaged using a multi-beam imaging machine, and wherein each of said plurality of printing plates is imaged using a different starting beam on said multi-beam imaging machine (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 58).

With regard to claim 35, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a random process (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 39).

With regard to claim 36, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a pseudo-random process (col 15, lines 40-58).

With regard to claim 37, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a sequential process (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 39).

With regard to claim 38, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a fixed or variable offset (col 15, lines 40-58).

With regard to claim 39, Kline discloses a method of obscuring or hiding artifacts in a printed image comprising the steps of: imaging a plurality of printing plates using an imaging apparatus having a plurality of imaging beams, said plurality of printing plates used for a same print job; and using a different imaging beam of said imaging apparatus as a starting beam to image each of said plurality of printing plates (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 39).

With regard to claim 40, Kline also discloses wherein said artifacts are periodic (col 14, lines 29-31).

With regard to claim 41, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a random process (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 39).

With regard to claim 42, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a pseudo-random process (col 15, lines 40-58).

With regard to claim 43, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a sequential process (col 14, line 60 – col 15, line 39).

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With regard to claim 44, Kline also discloses further comprising the step of selecting said different imaging beam using a fixed or variable offset (col 15, lines 40-58).

3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Twyler Lamb whose telephone number is 703 - 308-8823. The examiner can normally be reached on M-TH (8:30-5:00).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L Coles can be reached on 703-308-4712. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are 703-872-9306 for regular communications and 703-872-9314 for After Final communications.

Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

or faxed to:

(703) 872-9314

(for informal or draft communications, such as proposed amendments to be discussed at an interview; please label such communications "PROPOSED" or "DRAFT")

or hand-carried to:

Crystal Park Two
2121 Crystal Drive
Arlington, VA.
Sixth Floor (Receptionist)

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Twyler Lamb

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Twyler Lamb'.

September 30, 2004